

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Summary of the Office Action

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. The following remarks are responsive to the Office Action of December 13, 2004. Applicants hereby confirm the election of Group I, claims 1 to 10, 18 to 22 and 25 to 26, as previously agreed to in a telephonic interview between Mr. Fahmi the Examiner on November 12, 2004. Therefore, please cancel claims 2, 11, 17, 19, 23 to 24, 26 and 35 to 41 without prejudice. Applicants further appreciate the indicated allowable subject matter. Claims 42-57 are new. The above amendments are supported by the Specification as filed. Accordingly, no new matter is added.

The informalities with respect to the dependencies of claims 10 and 34 have been corrected and the removal of the objection is respectfully requested.

2. Response to § 102 and § 103 Rejections

Applicants have chosen to amend the present claims and add new claims that correspond to allowable subject matter as indicated by the Examiner. Therefore, the claims as recited should be in condition for allowance thus making the §102 and §103 rejections moot.

The Examiner has indicated claims 2, 4, 5, 8-10, 19-22, 26, 28-29, and 32-34 as allowable if rewritten into independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, claims 1, 18, and 25 have been amended to include the features as recited in claims 2, 19, and 26, respectively, and are therefore in condition for allowance.

Additionally, new independent claims 42 and 48 recite substantially the same subject matter as claim 1 and the allowable subject matter of claims 4 and 5, therefore these claims are in condition for allowance. New independent claim 50 recites

substantially the same subject matter as claim 1 and the allowable subject matter of claim 8, therefore this claim is in condition for allowance.

3. **Conclusion**

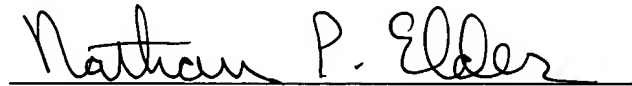
Having tendered the above remarks and amended the claims as indicated herein, Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections have been addressed and that the claims are now in a condition for allowance, which is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, please charge our deposit account no. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Larry Johnson at (408) 947-8200 ext. 208.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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